



# T-RAPTOR

## HYBRID BRASSICA

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HYBRID BRASSICA



T-Raptor is an early maturing hybrid brassica, a cross between a forage turnip and a forage rape, with 50-70 day crop duration. T-Raptor exhibits a leafy growth habit (higher leaf-to-bulb ratio) and is well-suited to grazing. T-Raptor is an excellent late-summer feed source, and a good supplement for late-summer periods when cool-season forage grasses slow in production.

Forage Brassicas are useful for extending the grazing season when other forages are less productive. Brassicas can provide higher crude protein and digestibility at half the cost of hay or conserved forages. Brassicas have extremely high yield potential when grown on high fertility soils and properly managed. Brassicas can produce as much as 40 tons (wet) per acre. Cold, drought and heat tolerant, these crops commonly provide valuable feed when other crops are less productive.

- ▶ High forage yields
- ▶ Multiple grazing
- ▶ Good plant vigor
- ▶ Good clubroot resistance
- ▶ Graze in 6-8 weeks
- ▶ Rapid Re-growth
- ▶ Suitable for all grazing stock



### **ADAPTATION - CLIMATE**

Widely adapted throughout the United States. Can be planted in spring or late-summer.

### **ADAPTATION - SOIL**

T-Raptor requires good soil drainage and a pH between 5.3 and 7.5. T-Raptor responds well to fertilizer.



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### USES

Under good management, it can be grazed once a month. T-Raptor is an excellent late-summer feed source, and a good supplement for late-summer periods when cool-season forages grasses slow in production.

### ESTABLISHMENT

T-Raptor requires good soil drainage and a pH between 5.3 and 7.5. Seed should be planted in a firm, moist seedbed. T-Raptor can be broadcasted or drilled with 6 to 8 inch rows at 3-4 lbs. per acre. It is very important not to plant the seed too deep; one-eighth of an inch will work best. To prevent disease and pest problems, brassicas should not be planted more than two consecutive years in the same location.

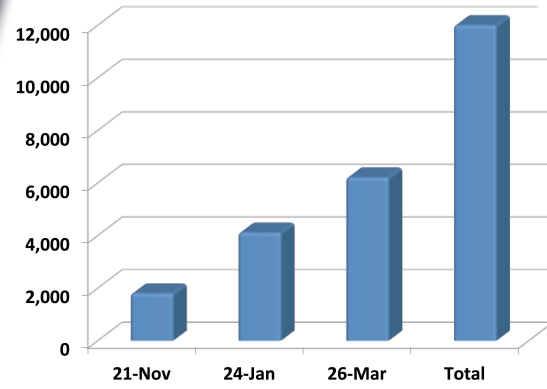
### SEEDING RATE

Seeding rate: 3 - 4 lbs / acre

### MANAGEMENT

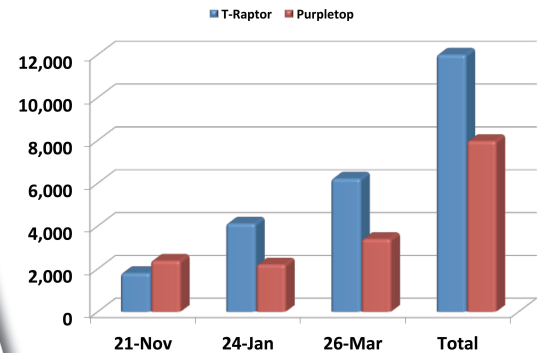
T-Raptor can be sown in spring or late summer. T-Raptor is quick to establish, ready for first grazing 6-8 weeks after planting. Strip-grazing prevents both yield and quality losses due to trampling and polluting. It is also important not to overfeed the cattle when they are allowed to graze the turnips at first. Extreme high dry matter intake of brassicas can cause health problems. Stock should be allowed to adjust to the change of diet. Supplementing with other forages will also prevent these problems.

### 6 TONS OF HIGH QUALITY DRY MATTER PER ACRE



Mississippi State University 2006-2007

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